

Date: March 8, 2021

Time: 6:45 – 8:45 pm

Location: Remote Participation, via Zoom

Agenda

- 1. Zoom protocols (5 mins)**
- 2. Review of mission statement and group meeting protocols (10 mins)**
- 3. Brief Introductions (15 mins)**
- 4. Kelda Fontenot, running for Housing Authority Board (5 mins)**
- 5. Warrant Article Discussions: (5 min presentation, 10 min discussion, 5 min vote = 20 min per article)**
 - a. Laura Kiesel: Increasing the proportion of new affordable housing units
 - b. Elizabeth Dray: Continued remote participation in town meetings
 - c. Beth Melofchik: Prince Hall Day & tree canopy
- 6. Approve February minutes (5 mins)**
- 7. The Incubator (10 mins)**
 - a. Brooks Harrelson: Monthly Groups and Municipal Scholarship Equality Index
- 8. New business brought by members (5-15 mins)**

Minutes:

In attendance: Katell Guellec, Rebecca Gruber, Beth Melofchik, Marian Weisenfeld, Guillermo Hamlin, Brooks Harrelson, Lynette Culverhouse, Stephanie Ettinger de Cuba, Laura Kiesel, Louise Popkin, Kellye Eversole, Shafaq Islam, Kelda Fontenot, Judith Garber, John Sanbonmatsu, Kevin Heaton, Chris Di Meo, Eric, Elizabeth Dray

Katell reported that she had several replies re: the Arabic interpreter for the Town Survey.

Katell announced that May will be her last month as co-chair of DTG.

In honor of International Women's Day, intros included one woman that inspires us.

Inspirations: Jane Goodall, primatologist; Nnedi Okorafor, author; Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, author; RBG, jurist; Alena Hromadkove signatory of charter 77; my mother, a union organizer; Alice Paul, Quaker activist; Margaret Randall, poet; Catherine Feuillet, French geneticist; Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany;

my grandmother, a radical anti-racist in the South; Sarah Vowell, author; Rachel Maddow, television host; AOC, U.S. Representative; Audre Lorde, author; my grandmother, a feminist and a fighter; single mothers!; Rosa DeLauro, U.S. Representative; my cousin Meg, built a non-profit that teaches self-defense and empowerment to young women; my friend Allegra, has always spoken up for disability rights, Harriet Tubman, abolitionist.

Kelda Fontenot who is running for the Housing Authority introduced herself.

Guillermo Hamlin who is running for the Board of Assessors introduced himself.

Laura Kiesel presented on her warrant article to increase the earmarks of affordable housing in private development from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$.

Laura Kiesel presented on her warrant article to earmark the funds for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for a lower AMI percentage than the current 100%.

Laura has asked for attendance at the upcoming pertinent Redevelopment Board and Select Board meetings and also to send letters to the Boards. It was asked if Laura could send a template letter to DTG members for them to share.

Motion to acknowledge support for these two warrant articles as written and to write a letter of support from DTG to the Redevelopment Board and to the Select Board respectively and to the Town Moderator. Unanimous yes vote.

Laura Kiesel presented an article authored by Elizabeth Dray for continued on-going remote participation at Town meetings and committees.

It was asked if Elizabeth could send a template letter to DTG members for them to share.

Motion to acknowledge support for this warrant article, article 21, as written and to write a letter of support from DTG to the Select Board and the Town Moderator. Unanimous yes vote.

Beth Melochik presented her article, article 89, Resolution Prince Hall Day. Brooks Harrelson read the letter he sent to the Select Board in support.

It was asked if Beth could send a template letter to DTG members for them to share.

Motion to acknowledge support for this warrant article as written and to write a letter of support from DTG to the Select Board and the Town Moderator. Unanimous yes vote.

Beth Melochik presented her article, article 79, Resolution Tree Canopy as a Public Health Resource. She asked for help in the wording of the article and may return to DTG in the future.

Incubator Idea: Brooks Harrelson presented a "teaser." The Rainbow Commission works with the Town to complete the Municipal Equality Index Scorecard. The idea is to have a comparable Scholastic Index. Brooks has approached Paul Schlichtman and many other groups around creation of such an index.

February Minutes approved: A motion was made to approve the minutes, it was seconded. Unanimous yes vote.

Suggestions for next month's meeting agenda: resurrection of the DTG Facebook page, helping to get out the vote.